

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

ROWENA CONSTANTINO-MILLER,

Plaintiff and
Counterclaim Defendant,

v.

AMERICAN GENERAL LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY,

Defendant, and Counterclaim and
Third-Party Plaintiff,

v.

MELISSA DEADRICH, Individually and as
Personal Representative of the
Estate of Douglas H. Anderson,

Third-Party Defendant.

CASE NO. 3:22-cv-05010-RSL

ORDER GRANTING IN PART AMERICAN
GENERAL’S MOTION TO DEPOSIT
INTERPLEADER FUNDS

Plaintiff Rowena Constantino-Miller is the designated beneficiary under American General life insurance policy number YMD7024000 issued to the late Douglas H. Anderson. Plaintiff filed this lawsuit alleging that American General Life Insurance Company (“American General”) breached its

1 contractual obligations, engaged in bad faith, violated the Insurance Fair Conduct Act, and was
2 negligent. American General filed a counterclaim against Constantino-Miller and a third-party claim
3 against Melissa Deadrich, the personal representative of the Estate of Douglas H. Anderson.
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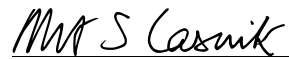
5 Deadrich, the decedent's daughter, made a claim for the policy death benefits on behalf of her
6 father's estate in September 2021 and on her own behalf in November 2021. After Deadrich filed the
7 first claim but before she filed the second, Constantino-Miller, the decedent's ex-wife, made a claim for
8 the same benefits. American General denied Constantino-Miller's claim, asserting that Oregon law
9 automatically revoked her beneficiary designation upon divorce. Dkt. # 19-1 at 2. Constantino-Miller
10 attempted to convince American General that it was misinterpreting Oregon law on this point, but she
11 was unsuccessful. This lawsuit followed. American General agrees that the benefits of the insurance
12 policy are due and payable and seeks leave to deposit the funds in the registry of the Court, discharge
13 under 28 U.S.C. § 2361, dismissal of Constantino-Miller's claims with prejudice, and an award of
14 \$6,835.90 in attorney's fees and costs.
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17 The motion is GRANTED in part. American General is authorized to deposit the sum of
18 \$250,000, plus accrued interest, with the Clerk of the United States District Court, Western District of
19 Washington, and the Clerk is directed to deposit the funds into the Registry of the Court. The sum
20 represents the death benefit payable under American General life insurance policy number
21 YMD7024000 issued to the late Douglas H. Anderson. The Clerk of Court shall deposit the sum of
22 \$250,000, plus accrued interest, into an interest-bearing account in accordance with the guidelines set
23 up by the Administrative Office until such time as the Court makes its further order directing
24 disbursement of these funds.
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27 Although the deposit of the policy proceeds into the Registry of the Court resolves American
28 General's role in the interpleader action and discharges any further liability it may have had for the

1 policy proceeds, its role as a defendant continues. The Court declines to resolve or dismiss the contract
2 and tort claims Constantino-Miller asserts against American General simply because American General
3 no longer holds the funds.
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6 Dated this 23rd day of March, 2022.

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8 ROBERT S. LASNIK

9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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